

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 MC-02 ACDA-05 L-02

PRS-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /062 W

----- 112952

O R 041128Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9529

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONSON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR

OSAF WASHDC

OASD/ISA

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1352

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, MASS, NATO, NO

SUBJ: AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 2799

SUMMARY: DEFENSE MINISTER FOSTERVOLL IS PLEASED WITH RESULTS OF APRIL 3 MOD MEETING. GOVERNMENTS OF FOUR NATIONS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE FINAL DECISION BY END OF APRIL AT MEETING TO BE ARRANGED BY FOSTERVOLL. END SUMMARY.

2. DEFENSE MINISTER FOSTERVOLL GAVE ME BRIEF RUN DOWN (BY PHONE) THIS MORNING, APRIL 4, ON RESULT OF YESTER-DAY'S MOD MEETING IN BRUSSELS. HE WAS MOST PLEASED WITH STATEMENTS OF THE OTHER MINISTERS AND IS NOW MORE  
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OPTIMISTIC THAN EVER RE PROSPECTS OF F-16 SELECTION BY

ALL FOUR CONSORTIUM MEMBERS. CONFIRMING GENERAL ACCURACY OF PRESS ACCOUNTS OF APRIL 3 MEETING. FOSTERVOLL INDICATED HE HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS DUTCH, DANISH AND BELGIUM COUNTERPARTS EVENING OF APRIL 2 AND THAT THIS FACILITATED "GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS" PROMPTLY THE NEXT DAY. FOSTERVOLL ALSO FEELS THAT STATEMENTS OF FOUR DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO "BACK OUT" OR ALTER CONSENSUS FAVORING F-16 AT APRIL 3 MEETING.

2. ALTHOUGH FOSTERVOLL IS CONVINCED THAT NORWEGIAN POSITION WAS DECISIVE IN BRINGING ALONG OTHER MOD'S HE POINTED OUT THAT BELGIAN AND DUTCH GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOT REACHED A DECISION, VANDEN BOEYNANTS PERSONALLY REMAINS PRO-MIRAGE AND STILL HOPING TO WIN OVER THE DUTCH. BASED ON ANALYSIS FROM NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE KLEPPE, FOSTERVOLL MAINTAINED IN BRUSSELS THAT FRENCH SHUFFLING OF MIRAGE PRICES WAS PURELY COSMETIC. SUPPORTING THIS VIEW, DUTCH BELIEVE THAT MIRAGE IS MORE THAN 7 PERCENT COSTLIER THAN F-16 BUT VANDEN BOEYNANTS DECLARED THAT TWO AIRCRAFT ARE IN FACT "APPROXIMATELY" THE SAME PRICE. DANES SEEMED TO ACCEPT NORWEGIAN VIEW.

3. FOUR GOVERNMENTS ARE COMMITTED TO FINAL DECISIONS BY THE END OF APRIL AND FOSTERVOLL HAS SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY TO SET UP MEETING AT WHICH THESE DECISIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED. THE MINISTER HAS ASKED TO SEEM ME EARLY NEXT WEEK FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF AIRCRAFT ISSUE.  
BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MEETINGS, JOINT VENTURES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 BRUSSELS 2799  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 16 APR 2003  
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**Subject:** AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT  
**TAGS:** BEXP, MASS, NO, NATO, (FOSTERVOLL, ALV)  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
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